Construction of Bridges on Ranchi-Patna National Highway

6893. SHRI BHUBANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of bridges on the Hesagada river on Ranchi-Patana National Highway and on the second river between Mandu-Charhi which was started ten years back is still lying incomplete;

(b) if so, the time by which the construction of these bridges are proposed to be completed; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken against the persons found responsible for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[*English*]

Repayment of Loans to Japan

6894. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRADSAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be state:

(a) the amount to be repaid to Japan during 1992-93 on account of substancial earlier loans;

(b) whether the Government have assured that the repayment of loans would be made in rupees;

(c) if so, the reaction of Japan in this regard; and

(d) the arrangement proposed to be made in the matter of foreign exchange in future dealings with Japan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) An amount of Yen 16896 million (equivalent of Rs. 348.06 crores) is estimated to be repaid to Japan during the financial year 1992-93.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No change is proposed in the existing arrangement.

Import Duty on Gold

6895. DR. VASANT PAWAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment about the quanitty of gold likely to be imported and the amount of import duty lokel to be realised there from during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWARA THAKUR): (a) and (b). It is difficult to quantify the likely import of gold and duty receipt. The estimate, however, is that 30 to 35 tonnes may be imported in 1992-93 yielding revenue of Rs. 150 crores.

Raising of Funds abroad by 100 per cent Export Oriented Units

6896. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATTANAYAK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed the 100 per cent Export Oriented Units to raise funds abrade; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FAINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 100% EQUs are permitted to raise external loans to finance their foreign exchange requirements. These loans can either be raised by them after the approval of Department Economic Affairs as per the normal procedure under FERA 1973 or such units can avail of the special facility of automatic clearance under the self-liquidating foreign currency loan procedure started from November 1991 under which the prior approval of Department of Economic Affairs is not required and borrowers approach the Reserve Bank of India directly.

Loans to Tribal Youth in Sundargarh District of Orissa

6897. KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of unemployed tribal youth who have been financed under SEEUY scheme by different banks operating in Sundargarh district in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): Since the inception of the Scheme of Self Employment for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY), 299 members of Scheduled Tribes have been granted Rs. 54 lakhs as loans by various Banks functioning in Sunderagrah District. During the year 1991-92 (upto December, 1991) 13 beneficiaries belonging to Scheduled Tribe were sanctioned Rs. 2.35 lakhs as loans.

Loans to Government of Maharashtra

6898. SHRI ANA JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loans sanctioned by the Union Government to the Government of Maharashtra for development project during 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(b) the number of project in respects of which the whole amount of loan has been utilized and work completed and the number of projects in respects of which the work is still in progress;

(c) the plans of the Union Government to completes these incomplete projects;

(d) whether any complaints have been received that these loans have not been properly utilized; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE): (a) Total loans sanctioned to the Government of Maharashtra by the Union Government for their State Plans 1990-91 and 1991-92 are Rs. 1264.86 crores and Rs. 1490.84 crores respectively.

(b) Assistance to State for State Plan schemes is given in the form of block loans and block grants which are not tied to any particular project or scheme.

(c) The Planning Commission has stressed upon the States to provide fully for spillover and ongoing schemes during Eighth Plan. It is for the State Government to provide adequate funds as Central Government does not provide additional assistance for completion of incomplete projects in the State.